Fourthly, by restriction of illustrations to such as are absolutely necessary.

General orders have already been issued enforcing the second, third, and fourth conditions, and it is only necessary here to reiterate them with added emphasis.

To carry out the first condition it is ordered that hereafter the first edition of every publication shall be limited to such number as is necessary to supply libraries, educational institutions, the press, State, and foreign officials connected with agriculture, exchanges, and such persons as are rendering tangible service to the Department, either by active cooperation in its work or as special correspondents; and, in addition, a small number, to be reserved for emergencies and for use in correspondence, and to furnish a small supply to be placed in the hands of the Superintendent of Documents for sale. Hereafter all reprints shall be confined to such numbers as may be necessary to replenish the supply of the Superintendent of Documents, where the demand for the same, at a price fixed by the Public Printer, continues.

Chiefs of bureaus, offices, and divisions maintaining free mailing lists will cause the same to be rigidly revised in accordance with the distribution indicated above.

This order does not apply to Farmers' Bulletins or to emergency circulars.

METEOROLOGICAL WORK IN CHINA.

By C. FITZHUGH TALMAN, U. S. Weather Bureau.

The Central Meteorological Observatory, at Tokyo, has just issued a series of publications presenting the results of meteorological observations, by Japanese observers, at the following points in the Chinese Empire for the periods indicated:

Chi-fu, latitude 37° 34′ N., longitude 121° 30′ E., October 1–December 31, 1904.

Hang-chau, latitude 30° 11′ N., longitude 120° 12′ E., October 6, 1904–December 31, 1905.

Han-kau, latitude 30° 35′ N., longitude 114° 17′ E., January 17–December 31, 1905.

Mukden, latitude 41° 48′ N., longitude 123° 23′ E., May 1–December 31, 1905.

Nanking, latitude 32° 5′ N., longitude 118° 49′ E., October 12, 1904–December 31, 1905.

Ryojun (Port Arthur), latitude 38′ 47′ N., longitude 121° 16′ E., July 17–December 31, 1905.

Sha-shi, latitude 30° 18′ N., longitude 112° 15′ E., January 18–December 31, 1905.

Tairen (Dalny), latitude 38° 56′ N., longitude 121° 36′ E., September 7, 1904–December 31, 1905.

Tientsin, latitude 39° 10′ N., longitude 117° 10′ E., September 19, 1904–December 31, 1905.

Yinkow, latitude 40° 40′ N., longitude 122° 14′ E., October 1, 1904–December 31, 1905.

An additional pamphlet contains results from the new Japanese station at Kushunkotan (Korsakovsk), in the island of Sakhalin, for the period from October 10 to December 31, 1905. The date of the opening of this station denotes the eagerness of the Japanese to extend their meteorological net work; for it will be remembered that the treaty by virtue of which southern Sakhalin ceased to be forbidden ground to Japanese enterprise was only signed September 5, 1905. It is also worthy of note that observations at Mukden began less than two months after the occupation of that city by the Japanese army, while the station at Tairen appears to have been operated for about four months within hearing, if not within range, of the enemy's guns at Port Arthur.

The tabulated results for the stations and periods given above fill about two hundred quarto pages, and are uniform in character with those of the second order stations in Japan as published in the Monthly Report of the Central Meteorological Observatory.

Meteorological observations on so ambitious a scale have not previously been undertaken in China, except at the well-known observatories of Hongkong and Zi-ka-wei, the former Russian observatory at Peking, and, latterly, at the German seaport of Tsingtao. The only other observations approaching them in fullness are those recently executed by British observers at Wei-hai-wei.

Of the new Japanese stations four are located at points for which meteorological data appear to have been heretofore entirely lacking; these are Sha-shi, Nanking, Hang-chau, and Tairen.

A fringe of meteorological stations now extends along the China coast, and eight stations exist in the Yang-tze valley above Shanghai. The greater part of these stations are connected with the custom-houses and light-houses of the Imperial Chinese Maritime Customs, and report their observations to the Hongkong and Zi-ka-wei observatories. The Japanese will undoubtedly extend their meteorological service in Manchuria, and are said to be contemplating the establishment of a large meteorological and magnetic observatory at Peking. In the extreme south observations are made at the inland treaty ports of Wu-chau and Lung-chau. Meanwhile the "back blocks" of China—the regions away from the coast and the treaty ports—are completely unknown to the meteorologist, who stands sorely in need of more information concerning the climate of the whole interior of the Asiatic Continent.

China is now dotted over with missionary stations; European and American engineers are building railroads, opening mines, and erecting manufactories in many parts of the Empire; and the Chinese Government is importing foreign teachers for several of its schools and colleges. To the meteorologist this means that China's population of possible meteorological observers is rapidly growing.

If we could press into the service of meteorology a tithe of the educated foreigners now resident in China, we should soon be able to fill some of the most regrettable gaps on the climatic charts of the globe, and also to obtain much light upon the problems connected with the winter "high" and the summer "low" of central Asia.

ABNORMAL APRIL TEMPERATURES IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

By H. A. HUNT, Acting Meteorologist. Dated Sydney Observatory, N. S. W., Australia, May 3, 1906.

The month of April, 1906, possessed such abnormal temperature features in New South Wales that a brief note thereon may be of interest to the readers of the MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW.

Unseasonably warm weather was experienced throughout the month, and during the Easter holidays what might be termed a hot wave passed slowly over our state; its duration was most remarkable for the month of April. The following consecutive readings were recorded at the Sydney Observatory:

April, 1906.	° F.
13	76.8
14	79.0
15	87.2
16	85.0
17	81.2
18	88.0
19	84.6

Taking the mean temperature for the whole of this month at the observatory, we find that all previous records, extending back to the year 1859, have been eclipsed. The mean for the month just ended was 67.7° F., which is 3° in excess of the normal, and 0.5° higher than the previous next highest mean, that is, 67.2° F., which was the mean for April, 1897.

Taking the average of all maximum readings, the abnormal character of the heat becomes still more apparent. The average maximum for the month just ended was 75.8° F., or 4.9° above the normal, and 1.2° higher than the previous next highest average maximum, that is, 74.6° F., in April, 1897.

The following table shows the means for April, 1906, compared with the results for previous years, at Sydney Observatory: